



2021

William Leonard Culp Collection - Accession 1737

William Leonard Culp

Winthrop University

Winthrop Training School

Lee Miller

Leslee Elliott

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**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

ACCESSION 1737

WILLIAM LEONARD CULP COLLECTION

2003

1 Box, 4 Folders

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

ACC. NO.: 1737
ADDITIONS: ____, ____, ____

PROCESSED BY: Philip Clapper
DATE: September 18, 2020
NO. OF SECTIONS: 3

WILLIAM LEONARD "BILL" CULP COLLECTION

I

Provenance: The William Leonard Culp Collection was donated to the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections by Lee Miller September 18, 2020.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: .25
Approximate number of pieces: 500

Restrictions: Open to researchers under the rules and regulations of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Literary Rights: For information concerning literary rights please contact the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Scope and Content Note: **William Leonard "Bill" Culp (1920-2007) who was born in 1920 on Winthrop's campus in the house that once stood behind the Little Chapel was the son of Leonard Parks Culp (1887-1978) who served as the director of Winthrop's Physical Plant (later called Facilities Management) for 39 years. Bill Culp attended Macfeat and Winthrop Training School later succeeding his father. Bill Culp began working at Winthrop in 1951 continued through 2001 in the Physical Plant Department. He was well known as "a walking encyclopedia of Winthrop lore" and a gifted story teller. During his Winthrop tenure he received the first ever Winthrop Employee of the Month Award in 1984, a Presidential Citation in 1995, and Winthrop's Chiller Plant was named in his honor in 1997.**

This collection is a series of transcriptions of interviews conducted of Bill Culp by one Lee Miller and students Whitney Carter and Leslee Elliot, dating from 8 Sept. 2003, through to the end of that Fall semester. The interviews themselves are primarily focused upon discussing the history of Winthrop, and in particular, the buildings at Winthrop, along with many of Mr. Culp's own anecdotes. The interviews were conducted to "capture the history of Winthrop according to the 50+ years of Mr. Culp's involvement with Winthrop." These interviews offer a great glimpse of Winthrop's history spanning from Winthrop Founder and first president, Dr. David Bancroft Johnson's tenure through Winthrop's ninth, Dr. Anthony Joseph DiGiorgios tenure.

Those working on the project included the donor of the collection, Lee Miller, additionally, Dr. Kathy Lyons as faculty supervisor in the honors program. Drs. Andy Doyle and Rory Cornish were the faculty working with their two students, Whitney Carter and Leslee Elliot. DeAnna Brooks with the Office of the President and Dr. Tom Moore, Academic VP at the time, also helped with the project. The information gathered by the interviews was used by the students to write an honors thesis and a major paper for independent coursework. The collection also includes correspondence between Miller and others integral to the project, primarily related to setting up the project. The original donation included copies and print-outs relating to Bill Culp, all of which can be found in the file that the Louise Pettus Archives has on Mr. Culp. The signed oral history project release forms can also be found in this collection.

Notes: There were plans made for the audio to be included in the collection, but as of the processing of this collection, they have not yet been received by the Louise Pettus Archives.

II

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

WILLIAM LEONARD “BILL” CULP

- 1920** **Born Winthrop College Campus, Rock Hill, SC**
- 1940** **Participates in WWII in England as part of the Air Force**
- 1946** **Becomes high school football coach**
- 1951** **Becomes maintenance engineer**
- 1957** **The 1957 edition of the Tatler is dedicated to him.**
- 1981** **Becomes Assistant Vice President for Campus Renovation
and Special Projects**
- 1997** **William L. Culp Chiller Plant named for Mr. Culp**
- 2001** **Retired from Winthrop and given “Bill Culp Day” by
Winthrop University**
- 2007** **Passed away**



III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
1	1-2	BILL CULP INTERVIEWS Interviews conducted of William (Bill) Culp during the 2003 Fall semester by students Whitney Carter and Leslee Elliot, aided by Lee Miller, the donor of this collection. The interviews discuss the history of Winthrop, Rock Hill, and Bill Culp's time working at the University, primarily relating around various buildings across campus and anecdotes that Culp shares within the interviews.	2003
1	3	RELEASE FORMS Copies of Mr. Culp's, Miller's, Elliot's, and Carter's oral history project release forms.	2003
1	2-3	E-MAIL CORRESPONDENCE E-mail correspondence between Miller and others involved in the approving of and working on the project.	2003